Sunn

A luthier’s view on the future of lutherie

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The music world is increasingly threatened by the dominance of Artificial Intelligence that has the ability to replace talented musicians. It can even turn gibberish into melodious pieces of instrumental music. I ask Piotr Pielaszek (https://34.75.98.129/prizes-awarded-poland-wieniawski-violin-making-competition-piotr-pielaszek/), one of the best contemporary luthiers in the world, if the demand for stringed instruments may rapidly decline in the future with the rise of AI in the music industry.

He says:

Well yes in general in a perspective of decades of course I am worried, but like any other professions, violin making may need to adapt.

In general a demand is quite constant from my perspective, it may just change geographically. And as far as it may change life’s of violin makers working locally, then for the ones working globally it doesn’t matter.

Probably AI will be able to create music, but fortunately art is quite complex and I am not sure if it will wipe out artists.

People who are ordering my work want to have great sounding instruments but as well they want to have instruments made by me, with toolmarks made with my hand, even with some tiny mistakes but still made by me, because overall piece will have a specific unique character and style.

I believe that in time, average makers may have to struggle a bit more as they will have to compete more with great machine made instruments but high level luthiers don't have to worry that much.

In my case I have 3 years of waiting list. We will see what future will bring

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